

NOTEWORTHY COLLECTION

CALIFORNIA

SANICULA SAXATILIS E. Greene (APIACEAE).— Santa Clara Co., Santa Cruz Mts., Mt. Umunhum (Midpeninsula Open Space District Sierra Azul Preserve), east flank of its NE Ridge, 37.15958, -121.89200, 730 m, *J. Rawlings* 1347, 10 April 2015 (JEPS100530); summit area *J. Rawlings* 1493, 29 April 2015 (SJSU15802); east face *J. Rawlings* 1721, 12 April 2016 (SJSU16001). 100s of plants, elev. 730 - 1036 m, on rocky outcrops and well-developed scree gullies. Full extent of population is not yet known; portions of the NE ridge with potentially suitable habitat were not surveyed because of steep, friable, rock faces. Associated species include *Allium falcifolium* Hook. & Arn., *Claytonia exigua* subsp. *exigua* Torr. & A. Gray, *Lomatium macrocarpum* (Torr. & A. Gray) J. M. Coult. & Rose, *Leptosiphon ambiguus* (Rattan) J. M. Porter & L. A. Johnson, *Minuartia douglasii* (Fenzl ex Torr. & A. Gray) Mattf., and *Selaginella bigelovii* Underw.

Previous knowledge. Rock sanicle had been known only from the Inner Coast Ranges in the summit rock community around peaks and high ridges of Mount Diablo and Mount Hamilton (Diablo Range, Contra Costa Co., and Hamilton Range, Santa Clara Co.) (Jepson Flora Project eds. 2018).

Significance. The species has a California rare plant rank of 1B.2 and is listed by the State of California as rare. John H. Thomas (1961) called out the Inner Coast Range affinities of a number of taxa growing on the eastern slope of Sierra Azul in the Santa Cruz Mountains (including Loma Prieta and Mt. Umunhum summits). These taxa include *Allium falcifolium*, *Arctostaphylos glauca* Lindl., *Boechera breweri* (S. Watson) Al-Shehbaz, *Chaenactis glabriuscula* DC., *Chorizanthe membranacea* Benth., *Clarkia breweri* (A. Gray) Greene, *Ericameria nauseosa* (Pall. ex Pursh) G. L. Nesom & G. I. Baird var. *speciosa* (Nutt.) G. L. Nesom & G. I. Baird, *Erigeron petrophilus* Greene, *Eriogonum saxatile* S. Watson, *Garrya fremontii* Torr., *Hulsea heterochroma* A. Gray, *Lewisia rediviva* Pursch, *Mentzelia lindleyi* Torr. & A. Gray, *Myriopteris intertexta* (Maxon) Grusz & Windham, *Pinus sabiniana* D. Don, *Rhamnus ilicifolia* Kellogg, *Selaginella bigelovii*, *Viola purpurea* Kellogg subsp. *quercetorum* (M. S. Baker & J. C. Clausen) R. J. Little; all have been found on Mt. Umunhum. *Hulsea heterochroma* was vouchered in 1952 (CAS-BOT-BC311952), but not found during our survey. All other species listed were documented by the authors. The main peak of Mt. Umunhum (near the

abandoned military radar facility – a large cement block-shaped structure) “consists of a complex mix of rocks, mostly serpentinite, associated with the Coast Range Ophiolite” (Stoffer 2005). This “disrupted assemblage of rocks which originally formed the Mesozoic convergent continental margin” (McLaughlin 2002) is frequently puzzling, especially in zones of extensive rock slides, to botanists interested in the substrate of their plants. The upper approximately 305 m of elevation of the 1,063 m mountain was surveyed during 2015–2017 and 400 herbarium sheets were made, most deposited in the Sharsmith Herbarium, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA. The results demonstrate the vascular plant richness of the approx. 200 hectare study area and sky island in the Santa Cruz Mountains, and further support Stebbins’ and Major’s (1965) identification of the region from Año Nuevo Point to Loma Prieta Peak as a “botanical hotspot” of endemism and speciation in the Bay Area and California: 362 Taxa, 71 Families, 8 CNPS Ranked, 80% Native (Hickman and Rawlings 2018; Hickman 2018).

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